

# MONTANA CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
**MONTANA FIELD OFFICE**  
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 Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 15, 2017

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Montana experienced mild temperatures along with periods of moisture throughout most of the state, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. High temperatures ranged from the mid-40s to 76 degrees in Port of Morgan. Low temperatures ranged from 14 degrees in West Yellowstone to the low 30s. Forty-nine weather stations reported moisture. The highest amount of precipitation was recorded in Creston with 0.70 of an inch of moisture. Soil moisture conditions were recorded with 46 percent of topsoil rated very short to short, compared to 26 percent the previous year. Subsoil was rated 68 percent very short to short, compared with 33 percent last year. Reporters noted that winter wheat planting had resumed in the North Central portion following heavy snows. Hard frosts were also reported, but in general light precipitation and mild sunny days improved soil and pasture conditions. Winter wheat seeded was 81 percent complete, behind last year's progress of 83 percent. Potato harvest was 86 percent complete, ahead of last year's progress of 58 percent. Corn for grain harvest was 34 percent complete, ahead of last year's progress of 33 percent. Sugarbeet harvest was 40 percent complete, ahead of last year's progress of 32 percent.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Camelina				
Harvested .....	90	85	94	98
Corn				
Harvested for grain .....	34	23	33	29
Harvested for silage .....	94	93	93	93
Potatoes				
Harvested .....	86	75	58	68
Safflower				
Harvested .....	62	57	60	66
Sugarbeets				
Harvested .....	40	24	32	41
Winter wheat				
Planted .....	81	75	83	86
Emerged .....	53	34	68	55
Cattle and Calves				
Moved from summer pasture .....	62	51	53	58
Receiving Supplemental Feed .....	21	15	10	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Moved from summer pasture .....	72	64	74	73
Receiving Supplemental Feed .....	23	18	12	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

**DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION**

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for field work .....	5.0	4.3	2.5	5.1
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	17	17	10	13
Short .....	29	29	16	25
Adequate .....	45	44	55	54
Surplus .....	9	10	19	8
Subsoil moisture				
Very short .....	32	30	11	16
Short .....	36	40	22	25
Adequate .....	27	26	56	53
Surplus .....	5	4	11	6

NA – not available

(--) – zero

**CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION**

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
<b>Corn</b>				
Very poor .....	9	8	--	2
Poor .....	12	10	4	6
Fair .....	49	35	30	31
Good .....	29	42	53	46
Excellent .....	1	5	13	15
<b>Pasture and range</b>				
Very poor .....	39	40	13	17
Poor .....	28	26	20	19
Fair .....	23	20	36	32
Good .....	9	12	27	27
Excellent .....	1	2	4	5
<b>Potatoes</b>				
Very poor .....	--	--	NA	NA
Poor .....	1	2	NA	NA
Fair .....	12	18	NA	NA
Good .....	51	48	NA	NA
Excellent .....	36	32	NA	NA
<b>Safflower</b>				
Very poor .....	29	36	NA	NA
Poor .....	21	21	NA	NA
Fair .....	49	42	NA	NA
Good .....	1	1	NA	NA
Excellent .....	--	--	NA	NA
<b>Sugarbeets</b>				
Very poor .....	2	2	--	NA
Poor .....	11	11	2	NA
Fair .....	44	44	21	NA
Good .....	37	37	67	NA
Excellent .....	6	6	10	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

Montana's weather data can be accessed at the following:

[http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\\_by\\_State/Montana/Publications/Crop\\_Progress\\_&\\_Condition/2017/MT\\_Weather\\_10152017.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Montana/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2017/MT_Weather_10152017.pdf)